Cracks in Sun Temple at Konark in Odisha

1631. SHRIMATI RENUBALA PRADHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sun Temple structure at Konark in Odisha has developed cracks;

(b) the amount spent by the Government in the last three years for the repair and protection of this prized monument; and

(c) the funds spent for the repair of Taj Mahal at Agra vis-a-vis Konark temple?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The conservation experts and scientists of the Archaeological Survey of India alongwith the concerned officers of the State Government of Orissa have recently conducted a detailed survey of the Sun Temple, Konark and found that no cracks are developing in the monument. The monument is well conserved and preserved.

(b) Expenditure incurred on Sun Temple, Konark during last three years is as detailed below:

(Amount in Rupees)

Sl. No.	Year	Expenditure
1.	2006-07	81,10,790
2.	2007-08	77,83,463
3.	2008-09	72,10,971

(c) The expenditure incurred on Taj Mahal, Agra and Sun Temple, Konark during the current financial year till 31st October, 2009 is as detailed below:

(Amount in Rupees)

	Expenditure
Taj Mahal	66,37,360
Konark Temple	29,80,230

Potential of tourism in the country

1632. SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the immense tourism potential of the country remains untapped because the development of tourism has been entrusted to the Governments of the States; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures Government propose to take to ensure that the potentials are tapped to the extent possible for the tourism boom in the country?